



Scottsdale Library Adding Solar Power

By Al Toby
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Scottsdale officials are finding more ways to put the sun to use than having it serve as a magnet for tourism. In a partnership with Arizona Public Service Co., Scottsdale city workers fitted the roof of the Civic Center Library's parking structure with a solar power installation, only the second in the city.

Mayor Sam Campana and APS Vice President Ed Fox will speak at a dedication ceremony today at 6 p.m. in the lower lobby of the library at Civic Center Plaza. The ceremony and reception are open to the public.

The eight solar panels on the roof produce 10 kilowatt hours of electricity a day, enough to power an average-size house for a day, and the power is channeled into the city's main grid. Solar power is regarded by many as one of the cleanest and most efficient sources of electricity. It's renewable and decreases dependence on fossil fuels. Anthony Floyd, the city's coordinator of the Green Building program, which promotes environmentally sound buildings, says the city is considering fitting more buildings with solar installations as well as building a large solar installation, but there are no specific plans now. The only other city building with a solar power installation is the Corporate Yard at 9191 E. San Salvador Drive.

Cost is the main reason more city buildings haven't been fitted with solar installations, but as part of their partnership with APS, Scottsdale didn't have to pay a penny for the \$16,000 installation at the library. The cost is split among the state Department of Energy, APS and a fund supported by 1,300 APS customers who pay an additional fee in support of solar energy.